

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—154 per cent. premium, ex div. sellers.	China Insurance Company—\$80 per share, sales and buyers.
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HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

From 11 P.M. to 1 P.M.	From 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.	From 3 P.M. to 5 P.M.	From 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.	From 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.	From 9 P.M. to 11 P.M.
30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0

Shipping.

PARTHA, British steamer, 2,035, James Arnold, 2nd March, Vancouver 4th Feb, General.	MARCIA, British steamer, 1,060, McTosh, 2nd March, Nagasaki 27th February, Coal.
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March 2, Norden, Danish steamer, for Manila.	March 2, Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, for Kutchinotou.
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REPORTS.
The British steamship Partha reports that she left Vancouver on the 4th ultimo, and Yokohama on the 22nd at 6.48 a.m.; arrived at Kobe on the 23rd at 9.20 a.m., and left again on the 26th at 6.4 a.m. Off Cape Muroto had strong westerly wind and high sea. On the 27th and 28th had moderate wind and fine clear weather. On the 29th off Turnabout had thick fog with rain. From Cape Muroto to port and 6000 weather. From Cape Muroto to port and 6000 weather. From Cape Muroto to port and 6000 weather.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

AMICO, German steamer, 771, C. A. Hundewald, 1st March, Saigon 29th February, Rice—Wielor & Co.	ASHBURN, British steamer, 1,613, John Walker, 29th Feb., Saigon 24th Feb., Rice and Paddy—Butterfield & Swire.
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MONKONG-SAILING VESSELS.

CLAN GRANT, British bark, 1,005, Moody, 13th Dec., London 25th July, General—Order.	COLOMBA, American bark, 852, C. M. Noyes, 27th Dec., Portland (Oregon) 20th Oct., Lumber and Spars—Melchers & Co.
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Shipping.

EMER, British bark, 778, W. Lummers, 23rd Jan., London 4th Oct., General—Captain.	ERLEKINO, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examination, 11th Jan., Stonecutters' Island—Chinese Customs.
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JOHN D. BROWN, American bark, 1,000, Joseph, 11th Jan., New York 4th August, Kerosene Oil—Order.	JOHN M. BLAIR, British ship, 1,778, Faulkner, 11th Oct., Cardiff 29th June, Coal—Borneo Co., Limited.
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STEAMERS EXPECTED IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	FROM.	DATE DUE.	AGENTS.
Huntingdon	Calcutta	March 2nd	D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.

STEAMERS LOADING IN HONGKONG.

DESTINATION.	VESSELS.	AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
London, via Suez Canal	Dionio	Butterfield & Swire	March 4th.

Intimations.

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W. POWELL & CO.

FOR THE RACES.
GENTS TALL HATS.
BLACK FELT HATS.
COLOURED FELT HATS.
STRAW HATS.
SCARFS, TIES AND ROSETTES made to order in any combination of colours.
BRIDLES TRIMMED.

W. POWELL & CO.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
(TELEPHONE 21) Hongkong, 18th February, 1888.

INTERIOR ART DECORATIONS.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Mr. W. S. Marten,
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
Hall & Holtz Co., Ltd.,
OF
SHANGHAI.

HONGKONG

FOR THE PURPOSE OF
COMPLETING XTENE-
SIVE CONTRACTS IN
DECORATING, &c.

NOTICE.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA
DOCK COMPANY,
LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS

are respectfully informed that, if upon their arrival in this Harbour none of the COMPANYS FOREMEN should be at hand, ORDERS FOR REPAIRS, if sent to the HEAD OFFICE, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

INTIMATION.

F. Blackhead & Co.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,
AND
PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVY CONTRACTORS,
AND
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,
No. 11, Praya Central,
(Opposite Padder's Wharf).

SOLE AGENTS

for
RAHTJENS'
GENUINE
COMPOSITION

THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS

CARBOLINEUM AVENARIUS
PRESERVATIVE AGAINST
ROT, DECAY, &c., OF WOOD.

CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings,
Hongkong, 10th December, 1887.

FOR SALE.

AT WHOLESALE PRICES.
SACCONE'S SHERRY, PORT,
CLARETS, CHAMPAGNE,
HOCKS, BURGUNDY,
BRANDY, WHISKIES, ALE, STOUT,
MACHINERY, COOKING STOVES,
SCALES, BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES,
PAINTS, OILS, VARNISH,
PIANOS, SINGERS' SEWING MACHINES.

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on all parts of the world. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, Hongkong, 1st February, 1888.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that all Vessels discharging Bombay Cotton and Cotton Yarn at the Kowloon Wharves will have free storage for 14 days from arrival, after which a RENT of 3 Cents per Bale per Month will be charged.

ISAAC HUGHES, Secretary.
Hongkong, 7th November, 1887.

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NOTICE is hereby given that all Persons having CLAIMS or DEMANDS against or upon the ESTATE of LEE TUK CHEONG late of Victoria, Hongkong, Merchant, who died on the 5th May, 1887, are required to send to me at my Office at No. 61, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, aforesaid full particulars of such Claims or Demands on or before the 30th April next in order that the same may be examined by LEE SOW KEW the Administrator of his Estate, and if found correct duly discharged, and all Persons indebted to the said deceased are requested to pay the amount of their respective Debts to me.	This 28th February, 1888.
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Intimations.

HO WYSON,
Solicitor to the Administrator.

SARAWAK GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

TENDERS will be received up to 9 A.M. on MONDAY, the 16th April, 1888, for RENTING the following FARMS for THREE YEARS, from 1st July, 1888, viz:—

The OPIUM FARM of the Territory of Sarawak, from Tanjong Datu to and inclusive of the Baram River, a distance of 20 miles.

The GAMBLING FARM, from Tanjong Datu to and inclusive of the Sadong River.

The ARRACK FARM, from Tanjong Datu to and inclusive of the Sadong River.

2nd—Tenders must be written in English and forwarded in Sealed Covers addressed to the Honourable the Resident of Sarawak, Kuching, Sarawak.

3rd—Tenders for each FARM SEPARATELY, and a Tender for the THREE FARMS COLLECTIVELY, are required.

4th—The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any Tender.

5th—The successful Tenderer or Tenderers will be required to find Security for the due fulfilment of his or their Contracts.

6th—For further information apply to A. L. JOHNSTON & Co., Agents in Singapore for the SARAWAK GOVERNMENT, or to the RESIDENT OFFICE, Kuching, Sarawak.

F. O. MAXWELL,
Administering the Government.
Resident's Office,
Kuching, Sarawak, 1st January, 1888.

FOR SALE.

A PADDLE-WHEEL COMPOSITE STEAMER—Built in 1881 with steel frames and beams, teak planking, copper sheathed all round—316 Register Tons—100 Tons Dead Weight Capacity—DRAFT 3 FEET, 6 INCHES—CONSUMPTION OF COAL PER HOUR, HALF A TON—AVERAGE SPEED 15 KNOTS—Length between perpendiculars, 295 feet—Breadth extreme, 34 feet—Depth of hold, 20 feet—Height in 'tween decks, 7 feet—Passenger accommodation up to 2000—Horizontal engines—Diameter of Cylinders, 19" 28", 2 of 31"—Stroke of piston 31 inches—100 revolutions of engines per minute—2 Boilers—Heating surface 1,350 square feet—Hull, Engines and Boilers guaranteed in excellent condition—Working pressure 60 lbs. per square inch—one Donkey Engine—Well found.

This Steamer particularly adapted to the Canton River or Macao passenger traffic and can be delivered in Hongkong in from 4 to 5 months.

For further particulars, apply to
ENGINEER,
c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office,
Hongkong, 29th February, 1888.

FOR SALE.

AN UPRIGHT IRON GRAND PIANO,
nearly new, English-made, expressly for climate, guaranteed for 10 years.
PRICE \$250.

Apply to
MR. SEQUEIRA,
19, Mosque Street.
Hongkong, 27th February, 1888.

FOR SALE.

GERMAN BEER.
BRAUEREI "ZUR EICHE" KIEL
\$7.25 per Case of 4 Dozen Quarts.
900 8 Pints.
EDUARD SCHELLHASS & CO.,
Sole Agents,
Hongkong, 29th November, 1887.

FOR SALE.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA.
SOLE AGENTS FOR
THE MIKE COAL MINE.

BUNKER COALS can be supplied to any Steamer lying in the harbour or coming alongside the KOWLOON WHARF on application to the Undersigned.

Y. FUKUHARA,
Acting Manager.
Hongkong, 19th January, 1888.

FOR SALE.

BOWRINGTON FOUNDRY,
EAST POINT, HONGKONG.

A. G. GORDON & Co.

A. G. GORDON & Co. are prepared to undertake every description of ENGINEERING and SHIP-BUILDING WORK, both afloat and ashore, on most reasonable terms.

PUNCTUALITY AND FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.

ESTIMATES FURNISHED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STEAM LAUNCHES, REPAIRS TO THE ENGINES AND BOILERS OF STEAMERS, CASTINGS, &c.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1888.

FOR SALE.

ANDREW JOHNSTON,
CONSULTING ENGINEER,
BANK BUILDINGS, QUEEN'S ROAD.

PLANS and Estimates prepared for LIGHT DRAFT STEAMERS, STEAM LAUNCHES, MARINE ENGINES and BOILERS, and all other kinds of MACHINERY. A List of Steamers FOR SALE always on hand.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1888.

J. AND R. TENNENTS, ALE AND PORTER.

DAVID CONSAIR & SONS,
MERCHANT NAVY.

NAVY BOILER.

LONG FLAX.

CANVAS.

CROWN.

ARNHOLD, KAMBERG & Co.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1888.

Printed and Published by ROBERT J. HARRIS, SMITH & Co., at the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Press, No. 11, Praya Central.

in-and-out running of Fullerton last season that caused the scandal between Lord Durham and Sir George Chetwynd which is now occupying the attention of the English Jockey Club; and it was the inexplicable performance of Success which led to the withdrawal of the license of the "crack" jockey, Charley Wood. I will briefly relate the circumstances of the last named case to show our local Stewards what the Stewards of the English Jockey Club consider sufficient for an inquiry. The *Racing Calendar* says that Wood has been suspended from riding owing to his inability to explain, to the satisfaction of the Stewards of the Jockey Club, the running of Success at Alexandra Park on the 12th of last November, and at Derby four days later. At Alexandra Park, Success, then the property of General Owen Williams, started favorite for the Racing Plate at 13 to 8, but, with Wood in the saddle, was unplaced, and was subsequently claimed on behalf of Mr. Hornsby. At Derby, entered as the property of Mr. C. White—a well-known bookmaker, if I mistake not who advertises himself as "The Duke's Motto"—and ridden by Mr. W. J. Warne, Success, starting second favorite for the High-field Plate at 10 to 1, made all the running and won in a canter by two lengths. That form appeared so contradictory to General Owen Williams that he requested the Jockey Club to institute an inquiry, the result of which is that Wood has been "warned off."

And now I must pull up for the present; but at another time hope to deal further with the prominent features of the past Race Meeting. My readers will make every excuse for the e hastily scribbled notes. They have been jotted down by the writer under very great difficulties and at considerable bodily pain in a bed of sickness, and very much against the doctor's orders.

AN OLD SPORTSMAN.
Hongkong, 2nd March, 1888.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Agents, at noon, on Saturday, the 10th March, 1888:—

The General Agents beg to submit to the shareholders their Report on the Working of the Refineries, and a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1887.

During the period under review the Company's establishments at East Point and Bowrington have been well employed, and the General Agents are pleased to report that the Working Account for the year shows a satisfactory result.

Inclusive of \$13,781.53 brought forward from last year, the balance credit of Profit and Loss Account is \$1,160.43 after deducting the amount of an Interim Dividend of \$6 per share paid on 31st August last. The General Agents and Consulting Committee recommend that the net profit should be appropriated as follows:—

Interim Dividend of \$6 per share paid on 31st August	\$ 90,000.00
Dividend of \$6 per share making \$12 for the year	90,000.00
To apply towards reduction of Property Account	20,000.00
To be carried forward to next account ..	11,160.43
\$211,160.43	

Outstanding shipments are light and the estimated proceeds will, it is expected, fully cover the amount of this asset.

Generally speaking the consuming markets have during the year been fairly active, and the products of the Company have met with ready acceptance.

At East Point work has been carried on throughout the year, and the demand having kept up it was considered advisable not to undertake the usual overhaul before the 18th of February.

Refining was stopped at Bowrington for a short time in the Summer and advantage was taken of the occasion to introduce some further improvements.

The conditions of the Sugar trade prevented work from being resumed at Swatow with any prospect of advantage.

PROPERTY ACCOUNT.

This has been increased by the cost of a new Colowan at East Point and some new machinery at East Point and Bowrington.

The remainder of the property at Wanchai has not yet been sold, but its favourable realisation is hoped for shortly.

CAPITAL.

The increase of \$600,000 referred to in the last Report was readily taken up, and the total amount now paid up is \$1,500,000.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

During the year Messrs. F. D. Sassoon, A. Melver and M. Grant have resigned their seats on leaving the Colony, and Messrs. B. Layton and St. C. Michaelson have been invited to join the Board; the re-election of these gentlemen and of Messrs. W. K. Hughes and J. B. Elias is recommended.

AUDITORS.

In the absence of Messrs. Thomas Arnold and H. M. Bevis the Accounts have been audited by Messrs. Fullerton Henderson and A. W. Matland. Messrs. Arnold and Matland are recommended for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1888.

BALANCE SHEET.—One Year—to 31st December, 1887.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

Property Account, consisting of:—	
East Point Refinery	7,244.49
Swatow Refinery	5,975.65
Bowrington Refinery	\$1,201,570.37
Wanchai Property	
Hongkong Distillery	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank ..	7,244.49
Cash	5,975.65
Raw Sugar	569,210.00
Refined Sugar, &c.	108,693.14
Spirits and Rum	4,919.69
Coals, Charcoal, Stores, Fire Insurance, &c.	170,466.67
Sundry Debtors	44,671.05
Shipments	219,611.13
\$2,495,393.07	

Liabilities.

Paid-up Capital	\$1,500,000.00
Sundry Creditors	874,331.64
Balance of Profit and Loss	\$211,160.43
Less, Interim Dividend paid on 31st August, 1887, @ 6 per cent.	90,000.00
\$1,211,160.43	

PROPERTY ACCOUNT.

To balance at 31st Decem-ber, 1886	\$1,320,176.07
To cost of one new Godown at East Point	21,711.35

To paid for additions to machinery, &c., at East Point and Bowrington ..

By amount appropriated towards reduction of this account, as per Report of 19th March, 1887 ..

By balance at debit

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How far any visitor to our shores may be justified in attacking the evils of our 'social life' is another question, which every one is free to decide for himself; but I think it may be conceded that to shrink timidly from criticism can only indicate an undue susceptibility. We happily live in days when the press can no longer be intimidated, and there can be no two opinions as to the excellent results of the system. I am convinced that there is a lesson to be learnt from the comments that have been so freely made upon our social life, and though I am very far from coinciding entirely with the views of this critic, yet I am disposed to agree with the general drift of his articles in believing that there are many absurdities and many social evils which have been very ably ridiculed.

It is more than possible that I may incur the displeasure of many of my fellow colonists in taking up the cudgels for this critic, but I shall not shrink from the task of investigating his articles, believing as I do that some good may result from the attempt.

II.

Taking as his text the various sports and pastimes with which Society is wont to divert its leisure hours, the writer draws a picture of the various phases of our social life. This picture, though true enough to nature to be distinctly recognisable, nevertheless presents some features of exaggeration which lower it into a mere caricature. A gentleman who once evinced Cruickshank his wonderful power of drawing, received the following reply:—"Ah! sir, my art has this disadvantage: I should, I fear, see some distortion even in an angel from Heaven." But these are times when a little exaggeration is not amiss, and to make people see themselves as they are is usually necessary to make them amend themselves.

I speak not only plainly but even with exaggeration. The harmless ridicule which this writer indulges in when treating of such little matters as Lawn Tennis parties, dances, and so forth, should scarcely cause us to wince; it should rather produce a smile of good-natured amusement. I have heard several ladies remark: "I'm sure the wretch was alluding to our Tennis, though it was all quite untrue." Of course, Madam, but how do you account for so many people finding the 'cap to fit'? To me it seems that no better proof of the accuracy of these sketches could be afforded. There are many points touched upon which, as I say, are only meant to amuse, but there are others which deserve more serious consideration.

A somewhat overdrawn picture is represented of the behaviour of the gentlemen of the Colony on such occasions as public balls, dinners and other social festivities; but there is no smoke without some fire, and I am inclined to think the writer's criticisms on this point have at least some foundation. The age has gone by when gentlemen can afford to indulge in the old-fashioned notions of our grandfathers' days; the three-toilet men are a thing of the past, and like the mere figure, they are not to be excused. There can be only one way to meet this social intercourse is blurring and to some extent even disgraceful by the behaviour of some of our fellow islanders. The characters of some few even of our leading men are stained by excesses which reflect great discredit upon the community at large. It is bad enough for private individuals to behave scandalously, but in the case of officials and public men it is far more serious, as behaviour of this kind inevitably draws down censure which it is impossible entirely to ignore. "Public opinion in old England has been clearly demonstrated in the case of a statesman whose name has lately been in every mouth. Our public men ought to be above suspicion; otherwise they are unfit for the positions they hold, and should be deprived of them, as in this case. Ability, even of the highest order, is shamed by private viciousness of conduct, and such men are a disgrace to this colony. Let us away with them, say I; we shall still find plenty of worrier representatives to fill their places.

There can be no question that the ladies of this Colony do not sufficiently discourage loose principles amongst us. Female influence can be most useful, and it is to be regretted that the matrons of Hong Kong do not look to rid us of this social evil. Let us British matrons put their foot down and trample this evil dragon under; she has more power than she seems to be conscious of, and like the giant, scarcely knows her own strength. It cannot be necessary for her to receive scandalous and evil lives on the same footing as more respectable folks; let her show plainly that she realizes the distinction between them.

As this writer plainly remarks, ladies are to be blamed for the deterioration in social life; he asserts that they have lost their influence over the young men also, and he is in some truth in this statement, and he is in his assertion that the young men avoid female society. It is true that a certain section of them frequent ball-rooms and tennis courts, but these are not the places for the ladies to exercise their influence. It is rather at the domestic hearth and dinner table that they should do their work of humanising the youths of Hong Kong. Do not, my dear lady, give up all interest in the boys who are without female relatives to look after them, simply because they are impudently. Ask them to leave your house, and you will see an improvement in their more, which will be more creditable both to you and to them.

Our critic has drawn but a sad picture of female society in the island; yet, I think it must be conceded that he has been moderate upon this subject. He pictures our fashionable ladies as engrossed with the pleasures and frivolities of life and accuses them of laziness and vanity. They know no higher duties and are swallowed up in the whirlpool of fashion, from whence they seem unable to emerge. They are described as mistaking their natural charms, and wasting the money of their husbands. They are neglected, and their servants abused; even, in short, must give way to pleasure. During the summer they are said to utterly collapse, and take no steps to preserve their health beyond taking a cowardly and expensive flight to another land. They know nothing of higher aims and fail to cultivate their minds by reading, music, painting, &c., are often neglected. Scandal is talked for they all hate and are jealous of one another. The young married women compete with the girls for attention which should be indifferent to them, whilst the less which they tell about each other might shame even Sappho. They are divided into cliques, and collect young men round them who are posted up with all manner of ridiculous stories about the rival beauties; and in this manner the pleasures of social intercourse are perpetually marred by discussing the marriage question without some justifiable cause.

Unhappy system which fosters young girls into marriages with gentlemen who are not good enough to be their fathers. He notes grimly enough that these unions are not productive either of much happiness, or even of offspring to take the places which must eventually be vacated by us all. He even insinuates the possibility of the coming decay of the colony from this very cause, and urges the young men to marry whilst they are still young. The blame is again rightly thrown on the matrons who are, as he asserts, mainly responsible for the evil. The fear of poverty, he urges, ought not to prevent us from seeking matrimonial bliss, and he points out very graphically that another cause of this

unnatural celibacy is the extravagance of the young men in subordinate positions. In this latter question I am sure he carries with him the opinions of most sensible men and women, though he somewhat exaggerates the ages of 'our husbands.' As a matter of fact, a few of us have had the courage to marry before we are bald and grey, but the scarcity of marriages amongst society people is a deplorable fact which cannot be contested.

III.

Turning to another part of these articles, we find the men classed under the distinct headings: There are those who drink, those who devote themselves to sports, and those again who are occupied in amassing wealth. The former question we have already discussed, and I, for one, wish to hear no more about it. The latter question is rather coarsely termed the 'dollar-grinding class,' is not very roughly handled in other respects. The critic sensibly recognises the fact that in making money is the main object of most men exiled in the Far East, and though he laughs at their manners sometimes, I cannot help thinking he has let them off very cheaply. Dollar-grinding is not a new thing in life, but the active pursuit of wealth more commonly commences later after whiskey begins to tell on our constitutions and interferes with more active sports. Our critic seems to take offence at these commercial pursuits taking place in the Club house, as if that institution were in danger of being contaminated. In this he is wrong, because the Club is the most convenient place in which to transact certain business operations, and the convenience of the majority is of more importance than that of a small minority. But in other respects his remarks about the Club are worthy of consideration. It is a pity that the Club is not more open to the public, and that we cannot take his hint and try to drop our commercial instincts in the Club. After business hours there should be no restrictions placed on the use of certain billiard tables by honorary members. We should endeavour to meet the views of these gentlemen in such little matters as the repair of bowling alleys, and so forth; in short, I think we ought to give them their money's worth. There are, in fact, many alterations needed in the Club which certainly ought to be looked to.

But it is in dealing with sporting matters that our critic betrays the most undisguised bitterness, and though I am unable to sympathise with him much here, I am still of opinion that there is a grain of truth in his statements. Men of literary tastes seldom enter very keenly into those of sportsmen, and something of this want of sympathy is clearly to be discerned in his criticisms of these subjects.

Although he may not say so in so many words, his criticism on sporting matters amounts to this. A certain class of gentlemen in this colony screen their greed of gain under the sportsman's mask. By fair means or foul they settle down to the pursuit of wealth; every kind of sport as well as business is pitched into their service; racing, rowing, running, billiard handicaps, &c., &c., are all looked on as speculations, and the air of bogus enthusiasm with which they endeavour to cover their true interest in these sports only adds hypocrisy to their original crime.

Now this is too severe, yet there is a grain of truth running through even this part of his attacks on our 'Social Life.' And it must be borne in mind that these hints are rather implied than actually written, so that it is possible I myself may be taking an exaggerated view upon this particular point. It is to be observed further, that he gives the minority credit for some real enthusiasm for sport in general, more especially the popular sport of cricket. The younger portion of the community are by no means roughly handled, and it would be quite possible to draw an useful picture of their back-sliding. It is true he says that the extravagance and makes some rather offensive remarks about running after omnibuses, but for all that, *jennette d'or* gets off very well on the whole. It can scarcely be denied that our young men are decidedly rowdy at certain seasons, that they are too fond of keeping up prolonged 'busts,' extending over two or three days at a time, and that their expenditure often exceeds their incomes. Their health suffers in consequence, and doctors' bills have to be met amongst others; and these are certainly apt to be heavy when they do come.

We all know of the general prejudice which exists in this colony against cold bathing; it is a pitiable thing to my mind to hear of young fellows in the bloom of youth being forced to temper the icy waters of a tropical climate to suit their supposed delicate constitutions. 'Oh! it brings on liver complaint, we hear!' Stuff and nonsense, my dear boys! the whiskey may do so, but not the cold baths, you may take my word for it.

There are other points of a more delicate nature upon which our youngsters, (aye, and oldsters too!) might justly have been attacked. These are passed over in silence, and it is not for me to create ill feeling by alluding to them; but if it were possible to handle such delicate questions without offence, it might not be without good effect. Morally, it is to be feared, is but little regarded by the rising generation, and a dangerous spirit is abroad which may sap and weaken the strength of our glorious nation, which at one time was renowned for its simple piety and unobtrusive virtues. These are grave questions, perhaps too grave to be discussed in these columns; so let them pass!

There is another point raised by this writer which is worthy of remembrance and attention. To be attacked on such a point as one's hospitality is a bitter pill to swallow, and one which requires a very large glass of water to wash down. He makes no bones about this matter, but accuses us right roundly of neglecting our social duties. We are told that other colonies are far ahead of us in this respect, and that nowhere else is the virtue of hospitality so little regarded. The young men of the colony are accused to be so little or no civility from members who are well enough to take notice of them, whilst naval and military men are said to be even more ignored. He draws a very grim picture of the naval officer left out in the cold and obliged to resort to an indifferent club for all his amusements.

Now, in this particular I am told there is but little exaggeration, and it is so, it is time to face the fact and make a change in these matters. It is all very well to remember farewell speeches from such sources, and to be flattered by their kindly comments on our social system. We should understand that these high officials are not free to speak their minds, and it is quite possible that personally they may have received sufficient hospitality to blind their eyes to the true state of affairs. It is, in fact, to the younger and irresponsible officers whom we should look to ascertain the 'public feeling' amongst the members of their club, and such comments, if unfavorable, are probably made with due reflection and knowledge of the true state of affairs.

Few residents of the Colony are in a position to judge this question on its merits. We are not birds of passage, and many of us do not and cannot know how far the civilities of the poor are extended to strangers. But if these comments are openly made, then we may be sure that there really is ground for complaint, and so, this is a very grave and unpleasant fact. What we can, and in each individual case ought to do, is to endeavour to give the lie to these assertions by offering the services in the future all the hospitality in our power.

But with all this croaking, I am very far from thinking we are in such a bad way, either morally or socially as these articles present us. I have no fear of a coming dissolution of this colony, for the future, even though we do not do our duty by marrying and giving in marriage to the satisfaction of this gentleman. We have the makings of a great, though not a very populous European colony in our midst, and I still hope to see the day when many of the existing social evils (for such do exist) shall pass away and leave us almost invulnerable to hostile criticism.

An Important Discovery is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and premature decay. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. We learn that the Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Company's Advertisements.

ZETLAND LODGE.
No. 525.
A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FERRYMANS' HALL, Zetland Street, THIS EVENING, the 2nd and 3rd March, at 8.30 for 9 O'CLOCK precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 2nd March, 1888. [230]

FOR SHANGHAI.
THE Steamship
"VANCTSE"
Captain T. W. Stirling, will be despatched for the above Port, on SUNDAY, the 4th instant, at 4 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to,
SIEMSEN & Co.,
Hongkong, 2nd March, 1888. [235]

For Sale.

IMPORTANT INTIMATION.

NOW READY.



(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST, DIRECTORY AND WORK OF REFERENCE ON ALL IMPORTANT LOCAL SUBJECTS FOR CHINA, JAPAN, THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, NORTH BORNEO, THE PHILIPPINES, AND COREA, FOR THE YEAR 1888.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY" has again been enlarged and is THE CHEAPEST, MOST COMPLETE, AND ONLY RELIABLE WORK OF THE KIND. PUBLISHED IN THE FAR EAST.

THE above named work, published at the Office of "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH," contains a Directory for the Ports in the large portion of Asia comprised between Penang, in the Straits Settlements, and the Northern Chinese Ports, including Wladivostok, Formosa, the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, Cebu, China, the Philippine Islands, Corea, British North Borneo, the British Colony of Hongkong, and the Portuguese Colony of Macao. It also contains the Principal Treaties between European countries and the United States and the countries East of the Straits, including the New Treaties between FRANCE and CHINA, CHINA and GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE and ANNAM, RUSSIA and CHINA, BRAZIL and CHINA, and the KOREAN TREATY; together with conditions of Trade, and the Port, Customs, Consular, and Harbour Regulations for the Ports of China and Japan; also descriptions of the various Ports, with the latest Trade Statistics taken from the Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs and other reliable sources.

The various Governments and Municipal Corporations, and all Public Bodies and Companies, Bankers, Merchants, Consuls, Professional and other Residents, have supplied the necessary matter, upon forms specially sent for that purpose, so as to ensure accuracy. The Naval and Military portions have been taken from the latest published official lists and revised at Headquarters: in fact, no pains have been spared to make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a handy and perfectly reliable book of reference for all classes.

In addition to the information enumerated above "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1888 contains a carefully revised

INDEX TO THE ORDINANCES OF HONGKONG; A SPECIAL LIST OF FOREIGNERS employed in Steamers making short voyages from Hongkong;

THE PRIVATE RESIDENCES of the Principal Government Officials, the Leading Merchants, the Foreign Consuls, Professional Men, Justices of the Peace, &c.

A LADIES DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG AND A Mass of interesting information on various subjects, culled from the most trustworthy sources.

THE WINNERS of all IMPORTANT RACES at HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, FOCHOW, and AMOY, with times, and other interesting particulars, carefully compiled from the most reliable sources, make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST," a *valde necesse* for all classes of sportsmen.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1888 is printed on a superior quality of Paper, and is the best printed and most handsomely bound volume published East of the Suez Canal.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST," in order that it may circulate extensively outside this Colony, is published at a POPULAR PRICE, and can be ordered at This Office, or through any of our Agents at the various Ports, for

THREE DOLLARS.

There is not space in the compass of an Ordinary Advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published, either in Hongkong or any other part of the East, at such a low price.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" offers Special Advantages as an Advertising Medium. It has an extensive circulation in all Ports between Singapore and Newchwang, in the Australasian Colonies, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and the scale of charges has been fixed at an exceptionally low rate. Terms can be learned on application.

Suggestions for the improvement of this work are respectfully solicited.

Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to Agents at the various Ports, or to the Office of "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" PAPER'S HILL, HONGKONG. Hongkong, 16th January, 1888.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HAY JUST RECEIVED THEIR ANNUAL SUPPLY

LAWN GRASS SEED

and

SWEET CORN,

for immediate sowing.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1888.

MARRIAGE.

At East Point, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. G. H. Bonfield, JOHN SUTHERLAND, to MARGARET, eldest daughter of John Holmes, of Greenock.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1888.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

ABYSSINIA.

LONDON, February 29th.

The King of Abyssinia has summoned all his subjects to extirpate the Italians.

Fighting is shortly expected.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

The negotiations between France and Italy for a treaty of Commerce have been finally ruptured upon points regarding the tariff.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Manila papers are unanimous in their praises of the Italian Opera Company at present performing in that city.

THE detailed programme of the Concert in aid of the funds of the Alice Memorial Hospital will be found in another column.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. courteously informs us that the steamship *Deccan*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port yesterday at 6 a.m.

A REGULAR meeting of Zealand Lodge, No. 325, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

WE hear that General Schaedelin has already proceeded to Haiphong to take possession of the 15,000 hectares of carboniferous soil in Dong-tien, lately ceded to him by the French Government.

LONDON papers state that an official letter has been received by the Portuguese Government from the Custom-house authorities at Quilima, reporting that they have seized two cases of manacles consigned to Scotch missionaries. It would be interesting to learn what part these manacles were intended to play in "the work of conversion."

By kind permission of Colonel Anderson and the officers of the 2nd Northamptonshire Regiment the Regimental Band will play in the Public Gardens, on Sunday, the 4th inst., from 3.30 till 5 p.m. The following will be the programme:—

March..... Sacred..... Bonissima.
Overture..... of.....
Sultan of Morocco.....
Aria..... Evening Prayer.....
Selection..... Remembrance of.....
Valse..... Gondolier.....
Selection..... Nearer.....
Marsiale Religioso.....

FIVE Chinamen came before Mr. Wodehouse this morning charged by the Police with rescuing a prisoner whom a P. C. had taken into custody, on the 1st inst. The constable said he saw the defendants gambling, and succeeded in arresting one of the offenders, when soon after the others followed and attempted to release the prisoner. A scuffle ensued during which the witness was violently assaulted by all the prisoners, who beat upon and beat him over the head and chest, after which they ran away. Another member of the force who had been sent out to track the larrikins swore that when the five accused men saw him and his party approaching they gave notice to each other and attempted to evade them—he heard them proposing to clear out. Mr. Wodehouse remanded the prisoners in order to collect further evidence, taking bail to the extent of \$25 each.

A ST. LOUIS telegram of the 31st January, says:—The ice-gorge which has formed on the Mississippi river in front of this city began to move at 10 o'clock this morning, when the January thaw loosened the great mass and it slowly crushed down upon \$1,500,000 worth of property, which it is now slowly grinding into ruins. Already several barges have been sunk and the steamers *Tamim*, *Matilda* and the *Hayes* have been sunk. The *Hayes* was valued at \$30,000. The *Matilda* boats also was a fine steamer. The *Tamim* was a ferry-boat. The wharf-boat of the Harp and Graham Railroad Company was swept away at 1 o'clock. The steamer *City of Houston* snapped her lines at noon and is a wreck. The ice has stopped running and there is little chance for thousands of dollars worth of property still below. The gorge began to move again to-night, but no damage was done, and river men think the worst is past.

IN another column will be found the Report and Account of the China Sugar Refining Company, Limited, for the year ended 31st December, 1887.

WE are in receipt of a copy of "The Universal Language or Volapuk," by Mr. J. A. van Aalst, of the Chinese Imperial Customs' Service, Amoy, and as soon as an opportunity offers, will review the work.

WE would call attention to a slight alteration in the Government notification which will be found in another column, concerning the message recently received from the Australian Government re the quarantine of vessels proceeding from Chinese Ports.

WE note from our Australian exchanges that Sir Henry Parkes, the h-less and thrice insolvent Premier of New South Wales, has been made a grand cross of the Order of St. George and St. Gorge. This is the distinguished honor held by our old friend and fellow citizen Sir Gush Bowen. Parkes, Bowen, and this distinguished (?) Order are well matched.

A THICK fog, one of the thickest in our recollection, enveloped the whole town and harbour last night and this morning; eventually clearing up towards 11 a.m. Ships' bells and fog horns were uninterruptedly heard throughout the dreary hours of the night and during the early morning; no accident has, however, occurred. An inhabitant of cloud-land informed us that the scene at the Peak this morning was peculiarly picturesque as no fog reached those altitudes and splendid sunshine ruled supreme, while the mountain's sides and the town nestling at its base were immersed in a sea of mist.

A COMMITTEE has been appointed with the view of procuring subscriptions to a testimonial to be presented to the Hon. G. H. Thomsett, R.N., in recognition of his twenty-eight years of service rendered to the Colony in his capacity of Harbour Master. We learn that lists will be sent round and placed at the usual centres for such purposes. Mr. T. Jackson and Mr. E. J. Ackroyd will act as Treasurer and Secretary respectively, and with the Hon. W. M. Deane, Hon. A. P. McEwen, and Hon. Wong Shing will form a Committee for the presentation of the testimonial to Captain Thomsett on his retirement.

ACCORDING to a Chicago telegram dated January 31st, a bold project to supply that city with unlimited quantities of natural gas for fuel and illuminating purposes is being developed by a combination of Chicago and Philadelphia capitalists, who will shortly incorporate a pipeline company. One of the projectors said that the pipelines would be fed by wells near to or remote from Chicago, wherever they could find them. They have already located several wells within a reasonable distance of this city. They will use for pipelines seamless steel tubing, the invention of a member of the combination, which is said to be a marvelous success.

TO-DAY a married woman named Tung-Alan was charged with bringing a girl aged 17 into the colony for purposes of emigration. The complainant said she was also married—the ceremony having been performed in Haiphong, and on the same day her husband took her on board a steamer and brought her to Hongkong and subsequently took her to Canton where he sold her for defendant for \$205—this was about a month ago. The person who bought her, the defendant, she did not know and had never seen before. This person brought her to Hongkong on the 18th inst. and soon after her arrival the Police took charge of her. The case was of considerable length and ended by the defendant, being committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions. Mr. Wodehouse had in hand several other cases in which women had been thus sold and kidnapped; they were chiefly Annamites or Chinese from the southern provinces, who had been beguiled by fine stories about the wonders and luxuries to be seen and to be shared in about Hongkong and Canton.

THE *San Francisco Chronicle*, under the heading "An Adventure," reports the following curious career of a Californian woman:—Baron Cremors has filed a suit against the *Press* newspaper for \$100,000 damages for an alleged libel published December 10th. Behind the suit is a romantic story. Cremors is the son of a great Russian banker worth forty millions, and a nephew of the Russian Minister, De Stuyve, at Washington. He is also Lieutenant of a Cossack Russian regiment of Hussars. In an interview he stated that he married a year ago in New York, Vittoria Cassin, a handsome brunette, formerly of San Francisco. He met her in a Broadway house and became fascinated. He says she professed to entertain an ardent and pure devotion for him, but two weeks after marriage she told him she could not love any man, because she had given all her love to a lady. Some time after he began to learn that prior to her marriage his wife had displayed an extraordinary infatuation for actresses. She had also been editor of a publication called *The Stage Gazette*, and was in the habit of going out in boy's clothes to see the town. An illustrated account of some of her exploits was printed. He was honestly devoted to the woman, and when she told him of her peculiar temperament he replied that although it would be a calamity, so long as she loyally adhered to him he did not intend to do anything to discredit his family or himself, and should accept her friendly feeling and gratitude. The husband continued: "She disclosed other serious errors of her life before her marriage, but I assured her if she would lead a true and loyal life now I could condone the past. Worst of all, she took a great fancy to James Jewell, a socialist shoemaker, proclaiming him the ideal civilized man. She used to take him to theatres, and got imbued with his wild notions." Jewell some months ago was arrested, charged with assaulting his own thirteen-year-old daughter. He wrote from the jail to the Baroness that the Baron was the guilty party. The *Press* published the letter, and hence the suit for damages and vindication. The Baroness is said to be studying medicine.

IT is stated in home papers that there were fifty thousand bottles of liquor—wines, spirits, etc., of all kinds—among the Pope's Jubilee presents. What a jolly boozee the old fellow will have for the next six months. With the aid of the Cardinals and other thirty apostles he ought to polish off the lot in that time. We are only sorry we cannot participate in this remarkably good thing.

THE Portuguese have from of old made themselves conspicuous as profuse narrators of travels and journeys in unknown seas and foreign lands. Pinto's "Peregrinations," written in the 16th century and describing the author's own journeyings and adventures in China, have acquired a world-wide celebrity as a work of history. Equally famous may be considered Barros, cognomized the Portuguese Tacitus, Couto, Macedo, and a host of others. The modern "descendants" of the old navigators and conquerors of India are now following in the wake of their presumed forebears, as they fill the continental libraries of Europe with volumes of descriptive tracts about Africa, Asia, and Polynesia; their works are, however, frightfully deficient in historical value, and their only merit would appear to consist in a certain fidelity in copying from larger and more authoritative productions on similar topics. This *caecitas* of travel-writing has now spread itself to Macao. Three historians have suddenly sprung from the Holy City and are now astonishing the world with their literary trash. One is the Secretary of the Portuguese Embassy to Peking, who has been filling the columns of the *Independente* with an interminable description of his voyage from Lisbon to Macao and Peking, imparting to the ignorant world valuable and hitherto hidden information about the geographical position and social status of such outlandish places as Marsailles, Malta, Port Said, Aden, Ceylon, Singapore, Saigon, and Hongkong. The world is assuredly under an immense obligation to Senhor Pindella for his recent discoveries and for the new theories of navigation he has acquired during a trip to the Far East on board a mail steamer. The next rising-historian is another Macao official who hides his light under initials. He probably thought he would improve upon Senhor Pindella's narrative by going over the identical parts of each of the mail steamers, and describing them anew, to the undivided admiration of all past and future travellers. Dr. Gomes di Silva, who is now in Bangkok, as Secretary to the Portuguese Embassy, has also blossomed out into an historian of travels. Bangkok may be thankful to him for the important discoveries he has made, and with which it is now acquainting the ignorant world.

THE column of the *Macao Independente*. We doubt not that the next travel-writer who will make him his friend and admirer will be our excellent friend who has just left for Europe, Mr. A. Basio, Jr.

KNOW YE, BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT
Ye Fifty-eighth
The true trained Bande of Northampton

(Ye Old Steeldrums of Rutland)
Did late Hongkong Goodie Folks, and Friends,
like unto the listers at "Happy Valley"
of this Fair Gibraltar of the East.

Whereon will be holden a Gynmic Tourney
(Of which anon)
On Saturday, Ye 11th day of March,
Anno Domini 1888.

Whereat a Bande of Ministrils shall discourse
with Instruments and Sonnes diverse.

Under the patronage of
H. E. Major-General W. G. Cameron, C.B.

Committee:
Major W. P. Ellis. Major M. Churchill.
Major R. J. Chychar. Captain J. Collinson.
Lieut. C. S. Fryard. Lieut. M. D. Graham.

Sub-Committee:
Sergt.-Major Hill. Sergeant Reynolds.
Col.-Sergt. Crowley. Sergeant Brown.
Staff-Sergeant Mills.

CONDITIONS.
1.—All Competitors to be properly dressed.
2.—Three to start, or no prize, 5 or no 3rd, 6 or no 4th, 7 or no 5th prize.
3.—Tug-of-War, 10 men a team; no sitting down allowed.
4.—Entries for all events free except 220 yards Handicap.
5.—"The Advance" will sound 5 minutes before each event.

To commence at 1.30 o'clock.

EVENTS.
1.—PUTTING THE SHOT, 16 lbs.—No follow.
2.—HIGH JUMP.
3.—LONG JUMP.
4.—BOYS RACE—120 yards Handicap.
5.—100 YARDS RACE.
6.—N. C. O'S RACE—120 yards.
7.—HURDLE RACE—120 yards, 10 flights, open to Army, Navy and Police.
8.—ONE MILE RACE.
9.—OLD SOLDIER'S RACE—120 yards; 1 yard start for every year over 12 years.
10.—FINAL HEAT HURDLE RACE.
11.—THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.
12.—QUARTER MILE RACE.

Challenge Cup presented by the Hon. C. P. Chait.

13.—BLUE JACKETS' RACE—120 yards.
14.—220 YARDS HANDICAP—Open to Officers of Army and Navy, Hongkong Club and V. R. C.; 1st Prize, a Cup.
15.—HALE MILE RACE—Open to Army, Navy and Police.
16.—TILTING AT THE BUCKET.
17.—SKIRMISHING RACE—100 yards; open to Garrison.

Prizes presented by H. E. The Major-General Commanding.
18.—WHEELBARROW RACE.
19.—STEEPLE CHASE—About one mile.
20.—TUG-OF-WAR—Civilians versus Officers of Garrison.

21.—CONSOLATION RACE.
22.—TURKEY AND HAM RACE.
23.—COMPANY TUG-OF-WAR, FINAL.
24.—OPEN TUG-OF-WAR—For Army, Navy and Police.

PROGRAMME OF THE MUSIC.
1.—Overture..... Guy Mannerling..... Bishop.
2.—Selection..... "Pleading South"..... Sullivan.
3.—"Cavalry"..... "Pleading South"..... Sullivan.
4.—Valse..... "Gondolier"..... Roden.
5.—Selection..... "William Tell"..... Balfe.
6.—Cavotte..... "First Kiss"..... Schaefer.
7.—Valse..... "Booth Air"..... Godfrey.
8.—Valse..... "Booth Air"..... Godfrey.
9.—Selection..... "Dorothy"..... Callan.
10.—Valse..... "The Bell"..... Lamare.
11.—Selection..... "Soldier of Sion"..... Callan.

JOHN MORAN, Bandmaster.

THE following are the Orders of the Day for the Legislative Council to be held on Monday, the 5th inst. at 4 p.m.—

1. Second reading of the following Bills:—
(a) The Stamp Duties Amendment Ordinance, 1888.
(b) The Trees Preservation Ordinance, 1888.
(c) The Rating Ordinance, 1888.
2. Third reading of the Bill entitled The Regulation of Chinese Ordinance, 1888.

YESTERDAY while some coolies were at work excavating on a building site in the neighbourhood of Queen's Road West, a large mass of loose flint-stone, under which many of them were working, suddenly gave way and fell on the top of a division of the working party, burying two of the unfortunate men completely out of sight. All who were able to do so fled, and were afraid to return, owing, as they explained, to the changes of more ground falling, and it was not for some time that it was suspected that any of the coolies was missing. On notice being given to the Police, and an idea getting abroad that the men had not all escaped, a search was instituted with the result that after much of the soil had been removed, two bodies were found in which were no signs whatever of life. An inquest was held at the Mortuary this afternoon on the two men, and also, on the body of a native shopkeeper who is supposed to have committed suicide last evening.

SPORTING Gossip.

Hongkong's annual carnival, the saturnalia of our "Gibraltar and Malta of the Far East," has come and gone, the gigantic picnic with its pleasing social amenities, in spite of the adverse weather, proved almost as enjoyable as ever; races have been lost and won, what is known in the racing world as public form has received a series of shocks which are as astounding as they are inexplicable; and as usual the smiles and frowns of Dame Fortune have been distributed with impartiality. However, I am not going to present to deal with the Jockey Club Meeting of 1888 from its social standpoint—that will be done in our Hongkong "Social Life" series of sketches at another time—but will confine myself to the racing and to sundry matters connected therewith which appear to me worthy of comment.

The wretched weather during the three "legitimate" days undoubtedly proved a great drawback and spoiled sport to a considerable extent, but even with this disadvantage the racing was quite up to the average, every event being fought out to the bitter end, and the fields all through were much larger than could reasonably have been looked for. Owing to the muddy state of the course upstart were unusually numerous, the best laid schemes of mice and men gangling away far oftener than was agreeable to racing experts who had based their calculations and made their investments on public form. I hold the general opinion that a really good race pony will run up to his form—always providing that he is in racing condition—no matter what state the track may be in; but there are undoubtedly exceptions to the general rule, and of this we had ample evidence during the past week. To quote one special instance, I need only take the disappointing running of Mr. John Peel's veteran racer Bandman. This old pony was never in better order throughout his lengthy career, and during training he again and again demonstrated his ability to "make rings round" the whole of the powerful East Point team without the least difficulty, yet in the mud he never once ran within 2 1/2 lbs. of his true form. His record reads:—A fair second to the Amoy ex-subscription griffin Lohengrin in the Lusitano Cup, an indifferent third to Bullion and Merry Andrew in the Professional Cup, a clever win in the Welter Plate from the erratic Forester and third class cattle like Fun and Superbus, and another defeat in the Navy Plate, in which he finished behind Bellion and Fun. And yet on the "Orday" when the course had commenced to harden, Bandman, over the immediate distance of the Lusitano and Professional Cups, cut down Bullion, Fun, Lohengrin and Quicksilver as if they had been so many hacks, winning in a hand canter by three lengths. The only reasonable inference that can be drawn from all this is that Bandman is one of those exceptional ponies that will not race unless he hears his feet rattle. On a dry course I feel perfectly certain that he would have been returned the winner of the Lusitano and Professional Cups and the *Champion*, as I know him to be a superior pony to Tioga over a mile and a half.

I will quote a few more cases in which fairly well tried ponies proved utterly useless as mud-larks. The Black Watch and Mac, with full weight up, distanced Silken Mead in a gallop over the Derby distance a fortnight before the races, in very respectable time, considering the holding state of the course. On another occasion the first named pony led Silken Mead for over a mile in 2.13, and several times proved his great speed by covering a quarter under 29 seconds; and yet in the mud neither the Black Watch nor Mac appeared capable of beating a first-class donkey. Honestly, in my opinion, was not his tip-top condition, being big and above himself; but his superior class should have enabled him to beat such inferior cattle as Gone Away, Encounter and Superstition in the Flyaway Stakes; and yet over his best distance (six furlongs) he was practically beaten off. That it was the holding course which stopped Honestly was demonstrated on Monday morning, when Mr. John Peel informs me he easily beat Leap Year and Gone Away in a mile gallop on a very slow course in 2 min. 12 seconds. No doubt several other ponies that failed to answer expectations would have distinguished themselves had the going been sound; and it is said that Dunkeld would have won the *Champions* "in a walk" on a hard couffe.

Tioga is a pony that greatly disappointed his admirers. He was as fit as hands could make him, but suffered easy defeats from Joker and Blue Raim in the Fochow Cup, and from Fair Sport in the Hongkong Cup. It is true Tioga won the *Champions*, but this victory was certainly not achieved on the pony's merits. With the exception of Fair Sport, the field was composed of tired ponies, and the idiotic way in which the "leviathan" stud were ridden amounted to making a present of the race to Mr. John Peel. Why Mr. Sassoon sacrificed his prospects of success on the (very far) off-chance of winning with Harbinger is best known to himself; that his suicidal policy lost him the honor and glory of winning the *Champions* is about as certain as anything in racing can be a certainty. It is perfectly true that Conqueror won (on a hard course) both the Challenge Cup and the *Champions*—he had previously landed the Kepong Cup and *Champions*, which was a still more meritorious performance—but Conqueror is, when fit and well, an exceptionally good stayer, and more over, one of the hardest race-ponies that ever looked through a bridle. Harbinger is neither

the one nor the other; he is not a first class stayer and he is a very delicately constituted pony.

Fair Sport was kept specially for the *Champions* and it was intended to win with him *after the fashion of the Challenge Cup*. Harbinger's fluky victory—Carole must have won had Mr. Crawford come a little sooner—in the *Challenge* entirely upset all previous arrangements, apparently for the reason that the three thousand taeler had been especially backed to win the great race of the meeting. And in grasping at the shadow the substance was missed, to the demonstrative delight of all lovers of genuine sport. Tioga, as I have already indicated, did not win the *Champions* on his racing merits; Fair Sport beat him easily enough in the Hongkong Cup, but he tried to do so—and failed. Fair Sport rendered him no assistance whatever, and the latter's jockey, notwithstanding his previous outing in the *Challenge*, would have made a bold bid for victory had his rider not been tied down to waiting orders. Mr. Crawford's riding of Fair Sport is simply incomprehensible. If the Confederacy were afraid that Fair Sport would beat Harbinger it would have been better to have kept him in his stable; Harbinger was specially designed to make his own running and gallop his opponents to a standstill, and this he tried to do—and failed. Fair Sport rendered him no assistance whatever, and the latter's jockey, instead of waiting on Tioga and coming when his stable companion was beaten, "powed" his head off in the first three quarters of a mile, had to be pulled up, and walked in with the crowd. It is quite legitimate in racing for an owner who starts more than one pony to make a declaration with which he intends to win; and it is equally legitimate to issue over one that has not been declared if the winner ever appears in doubt. Mr. Sassoon had a perfect right to wait on Tioga with Fair Sport, and to allow Harbinger to dispose of Orlando single handed, and to win with either after it was seen that the declaration pony was beaten. Why this was not done suggests the assumption that Mr. Sassoon knows very little about racing ethics, or that he did not wish to win the *Champions* with any other pony but Harbinger.

Orlando was a much more important factor in Tioga's success than superficial observers are probably aware of. Mr. Reynell, although admittedly one of the most powerful of the present school of Shanghai jockeys, has never borne a very high reputation for judgment—excepting, perhaps, in tooling old Bandman—but on this particular occasion he rode like a Fortune. It was, of course, well known that Mr. John Peel's hopes rested solely on Tioga, and that Mr. Reynell's special mission was to assist Mr. Hutchings in (metaphorically) cutting Harbinger's throat as speedily as possible. And this important job Mr. Reynell and the big chesnut galloper effected very completely, even including Fair Sport in the business. Seeing that both Harbinger and Fair Sport were on cutting down tactics, Mr. Reynell, remembering what Orlando did with the former in the Stirrup-Cup, set the pace just as fast as his horse could go, and, considering the state of the course, it was a cracker. It was a grand sight to see the chesnut striding down the centre of the straight at full pressure, with Fair Sport on his whip hand and Harbinger on the inside struggling to keep their places. The pace was too fast to last, and when, after passing the Grand Stand, Mr. Crawford raised his whip, all was over with Fair Sport. It was then that Mr. Reynell displayed good judgment; seeing that Fair Sport was disposed of he shot across the course, took his place alongside Harbinger, and commenced to ride Orlando for all he was worth. Mr. Hutchings and Harbinger gamely responded and in rising the Black Rock bill the favorite got the best of the struggle and drew gradually away; but Orlando had done his work effectively and when the comparatively fresh Tioga dashed up without giving the "Demon" time to take a pull, the race was practically over. Mr. Hough rode a good race, but I hope the next time he rides a winner in Hongkong, he will refrain from looking round at his beaten opponents and jeeringly waving his whip about his head. It is bad for him and it is not sport. He might as well be the winner of the *Champions* as he is the winner of the *Champions*. One can laugh at this sort of thing in a *Mafioso* scramble from "The Pirate" or "The Horse," but it is not nice from a gentleman's side. Needless to say that these remarks are not offensively meant, and I am only sorry that any reason should have existed for their use.

Numerous remarks have been made regarding the in-and-out running of certain ponies in Mr. Sassoon's stable, but more especially Bullion, Carole and Orange Blossom. In the Lusitano Cup, Carole, a mile and a quarter, Bullion, Mr. Hutchings, was beaten off by Lohengrin, Bandman, Mac, and three others, and when opposing the same ponies in the Professional Cup and Navy Plate, with the same rider in the saddle, he won in common canter, and looked, although a tired pony, very much like winning the *Champions* a quarter of a mile from home. Mr. Machado having the mount in the last instance, Carole, ridden by Mr. Hutchings, never got near the front in the Derby and was practically beaten off in the Scurry Stakes, steeved by the same jockey. He was unluckily to Lighthouse, Silken Mead and the moderate Punchinello; and yet, with Mr. Crawford up, he only lost the *Patience* Cup by a short head to Happy-go-lucky, which ought to have been the other way, and ran Harbinger to the hairs on his nose in the *Challenge* Cup, beating the winner of the Derby, Orlando, and three other tried racers. In the *Champions* Carole, ridden by Mr. McLean, was only beaten half a length by Harbinger for second place—with Fair Sport, Orlando, Tycoon, Merry Andrew, Bullion, and Joker behind him. It might possibly have been won by his rider, but he was allowed to exercise his own judgment. Orange Blossom (Mr. Hutchings up) was beaten very cleverly in the Valley Stakes by Viking; steeved by the same jockey in the German Cup he had the race in hand all the way and won in a canter; and in the *Brokers* Cup, carrying 7 lb. extra and ridden by Mr. Machado, he cut down Viking, Sultan, Melitrope, and all the subscription griffins almost without an effort.

More inconsistent running than in the cases just quoted would be impossible. How to explain it satisfactorily is far beyond my power, but I do not hesitate to say that it is the duty of the Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club to demand an explanation in the interests of true sport. It must not for one moment be inferred that I am insinuating dishonesty or fraud by calling attention to the complicated performances of the above named ponies; it is quite possible that the persons responsible are in a position to offer a thoroughly satisfactory explanation, and my principal object in calling attention to the matter is to give them that opportunity. Inconsistent running does by no means justify an accusation of fraud; race ponies are not machines whose performance can at all times be relied on, but have been conclusively shown to be in-and-out in most aggravating fashion. Of course if equivocal betting transactions are mixed up with inconsistent running, then the subject assumes a serious aspect. Singularly enough, two instances of inconsistent running at home have for some time past been the leading sensations on the English turf. It was the

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C. D. HARMAN,
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 Hongkong, 11th February, 1883.

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 Hongkong, 26th February, 1888. [36]

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